

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NOUAKC 02206 101537Z

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CPR-01 SS-15 NSC-05 A-01 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /048 W
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R 101117Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 2206

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, CH, US

SUBJECT: CONDOLENCE CEREMONY FOR CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG

REF: STATE 223128

1. CHINESE EMBASSY IN NOUAKCHOTT, AS MATTER OF ROUTINE, DOES NOT SEND US COPIES OF OFFICIAL NOTES. WE DID NOT RECEIVE, THEREFORE, INVITATION TO SIGN CONDOLENCE BOOK. IN VIEW OF RELATIVELY CORDIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN AMERICAN AND CHINESE EMBASSIES, HOWEVER, I CALLED AMBASSADOR KANG MAO CHAO THIS MORNING, EXPRESSED CONDOLENCES, AND INDICATED I WOULD BE PLEASED TO SIGN BOOK IF HE CONSIDERED IT APPROPRIATE. AMB. KANG OFFERED WARM THANKS FOR TELEPHONE CALL, ADDING IT WOULD BE MOST APPROPRIATE TO SIGN BOOK.

2. FORMAL CEREMONY AT CHINESE EMBASSY WAS TASTEFULLY RNE. CONDOLENCE BOOK WILL BE OPEN DURING MORNING HOURS UNTIL SEPT. 18. THERE WERE NO PARTICULARLY UNUSUAL ASPECTS. PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH REPORTEDLY SIGNED BOOK FIRST THING THIS MORNING. GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY, CHAAB, IS RIFE WITH COVERAGE ABOUT CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG, INCLUDING FRONT PAGE PICTURE OF OULD DADDAH AND MAO SHAKING HANDS DURING THEIR LAST MEETING IN SEPT. 1974. SHINN

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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